Welcome to the CDAT Course
[summer 2005]

Who are we?

- Ag Stephens (BADC – CDAT user/developer)
- Stephen Pascoe (BADC – CDAT user, Python expert)

- Thanks to NIEeS:
  - Martin Dove (Director)
  - Stuart Ballard (Science Coordinator)
  - Helen Wells (Course Administrator)

Aims of the course

The course aims to:

- provide a beginner's guide to CDAT

- capture the most useful bits

- allow time for your issues

- provide hands-on experience as well as taught material

- provide a set of notes and references that will allow participants to boldly go out into the world as proud CDAT users

What it is not

The course is not:

- a comprehensive description of CDAT and all its sub-packages (*not enough time)*

- intended for advanced CDAT users or developers

- a guide to only using VCDAT

- *supposed to be dull!* Help keep us awake by asking lots of questions and making life difficult for us.

House-keeping

- Timing
- Toilets
- Fire Exits
- Breaks
- Lunch
- Accommodation- Robinson College
- Evening meal

Timetable: Day 1

10:00	10:15	Introduction
10:15	10:45	What is CDAT? Brief Tour and Installation
10:45	11:10	VCDAT Introduction
11:10	**11:25**	**Coffee/Tea**
11:25	12:00	More on VCDAT
12:00	12:30	VCDAT Playtime
12:30	**13:30**	**Lunch**
13:30	13:45	Why NetCDF and the CF Convention
13:45	14:30	Quick guide to Reading, Manipulating, Plotting and Writing data
14:30	15:30	Practical session
15:30	**15:45**	**Coffee/Tea**
15:45	16:30	Advanced Data Manipulation
16:30	17:15	Basic plotting and animation with VCS
17:15	18:00	Clinic and further practical playtime

Timetable: Day 2

9:30	10:15	Why Python? **OR** Averaging; Grids and Interpolation
10:15	10:45	Python basics **OR** Statistical Tools (Genutil)
10:45	**11:00**	**Coffee/Tea**
11:00	11:45	OOP in Python **OR** Practical session
11:45	12:30	Python Playtime **OR** Climate-specific tools (Cdutil)
12:30	**13:30**	**Lunch**
13:30	14:45	Optional Sessions: cdscan; cdtime; working with masks; ASCII files, binary files, Building on CDAT; Binding to other languages.
14:45	**15:05**	**Coffee/Tea**
15:05	16:30	Clinic and summing up

Materials

- Presentations

- Links and Support

- Exercises & Solutions

- Worked examples

- Quick start sheets

Time for your issues

- Scheduled *clinic* times each day.

- Open session (day 2) for issues you would like to cover.

- *But those of you that want to do exercises instead during that time can do.*

- It would also be useful to know your expectations of the course.